

# SLOHS EXPRESSIONS

JUNE ISSUE 2017

SLOHSEXPRESSIONS.COM



## EXPRESSIONS

JUNE 2017

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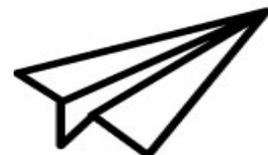
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# Letter from the Editor

By Aric Sweeny

As one of *Expressions*' Editors-In-Chief, I'd like to take a moment and thank all the readers from this past school year. It's been a pleasure reporting all happenings of SLOHS for the past nine months, and I'll truly miss it as I graduate.

I've been in newspaper since the beginning of my sophomore year, and I can honestly say the class changed not only my perception of SLOHS, but my legitimate enjoyment of high school. I've always been a seeker of truth, and *Expressions* gave me an outlet to do that at a level where my voice really made a difference.

Getting *slohsexpressions.com* to the place it is today, with a steady stream of traffic and daily content, is an accomplishment of mine that I gladly pass on to the next web editor. When I first took over the site, it was lacking in articles and didn't have nearly as many returning visitors as it does today. Pushing daily content is crucial in the changing world of digital media, and I believe I have set the site up for success years after I am gone.

High school is a rough time for many, many people, and the most important advice I can give readers is this: find something you love to do, and do it frequently. Three years ago, like the majority of freshmen, I was pretty lost; I didn't find my interest on campus, and then I was introduced to this class. Now, some may take it for one trimester and hate it, and that's okay. Newspaper isn't for everyone, but I still strongly encourage anyone mildly interested in writing, hearing out both sides, and siding with truth to take the class next year. And if you're interested in being a reporter or editor, I hope that the events regarding former teacher Michael Stack have sparked your journalistic interest even more.

This class thrives when the people in it are passionate, driven, and bring their own ideas to the table - that can only happen if individuals understand just how powerful the press can be.

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# Best ofs...

Senior Superlatives  
selected by the  
*Expressions* editors



**Vince Tibbles**  
Best Snapchat vlogger



**Cole Westwood**  
Best sk8 trix



**Britania Lee**  
Best Kardashian  
impersonation



**Natalie Sada**  
Best teacher's pet



**Technology James**  
Best hacking skills



**Cami Love**  
Best Hillary Clinton drag  
queen

# Most likely to...



**Jake Alltucker**  
Most likely to become a real wizard



**Sam Kukol**  
Most likely to become a butcher



**Logan McNichols**  
Most likely to find the answer to human existence and achieve enlightenment



**Carissa Denehy**  
Most likely to remind the teacher there's homework



**Matt White**  
Most likely to take off running in the middle of a conversation



**Kevin Coulombe**  
Most likely to think he is still a high school student when not

# Should seniors take a gap year?

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By Jena Naficy

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The craziest months of our high school careers: applying to colleges and waiting for a response. But is there another option? Taking a break between high school and college, most commonly known as a gap year, has become an increasingly popular alternative to returning to school in the fall after graduation. This break can be used to increase maturity, acquire work experience, and build up a resume for applying to college.

“I think it’s a great way to take some time to one’s self and to experience the many things we are deprived from when

at school,” said senior Andrea Hernandez. Though she is not taking a gap year herself, Hernandez believes that gap years give students the opportunity to discover more in the world and take a break from the hectic school year.

Typically, students entering college are only used to a guarded high school environment, something far different than the atmosphere in college. By taking a year to learn more about themselves and the way the real world works, graduates can be more ready to take complete advantage of their college experience.

Taking a gap year is ideal for students who feel burned out and need a break to feel ready to perform their best in college.

While most forms of gap years, like traveling abroad, require money, students can use the opportunity to learn a new language, learn about a new culture, take an internship, or work at a job within the field they wish to study in college. This could even help with future careers.

“I’d get an internship at one of the Teletón institutions; they are non-profit children’s rehabilitation centers, many of which are in Mexico,” said Hernandez.

There are many great opportunities like volunteering or interning in a field that interests you; it could possibly even improve your chances of being accepted into college if you choose to apply after taking the gap year.

## Advice From a SLOHS Senior

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By Jenny Zakaria

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All San Luis Obispo High School seniors can reflect upon their past year and recognize different actions which could have improved their senior experience. Many seniors have insights about the final year of high school and have developed pro-tips on how to get through it.

One extremely valuable piece of advice is to be vigilant of available scholarships all year long and frequently sift through the stacks of applications in the career center. It is common for seniors to apply only to the assortment of local scholarships, typically due on the first of March, not considering the ones due prior to and following this deadline. For this reason, most other scholarships are overlooked, giving those who do apply the advantage of a smaller selection pool, thus giving each individual

applicant a better chance of receiving them.

“Definitely apply to those! I applied to like seventeen of them and it was a good choice,” said senior Chana Andersen.

Another recommendation was to not stress excessively about the college admission process. Many students expressed remorse for all the energy wasted on worrying.

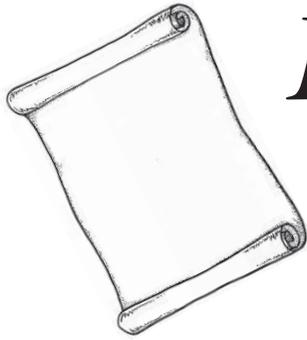
“Try not to worry too much, everything will work out, and it’s okay if you don’t know what you want to do yet,” said senior Katrin Gaines. In fact, many students applied without knowing what they wanted to do, but ended up narrowing their scope by the end of the school year.

Additionally, to alleviate some of the stress, “start looking at colleges early, and try to narrow your search before you apply. Don’t apply to schools you wouldn’t see yourself going to,” said senior Lilly Hollister. This gives prospective college students the opportunity to figure out what

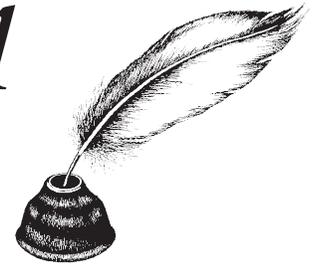
they are truly looking for in a school and save money on aimless and dead-ended applications.

Lastly, it is tremendously imperative to “spend time with the people you love; you’re most likely not going to see them for a long time,” said senior Samantha Wright. She also advised future seniors to “be brave and put yourself in situations out of your comfort zone. Insecurities are usually one sided and take away from potentially great experiences. Push yourself and still take AP or challenging classes. Taking all electives really deteriorates your work ethic.”

It is important to take chances during your senior year. Apply to scholarships, investigate colleges, and get informed about the numerous possibilities easily accessible to students. Additionally, take advantage of the time available to spend with friends, family, and even the personable SLOHS staff.



# How To Pick A Senior Quote




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By Matteo Cicognani  
and Luca MacDougall

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**1.** If you want your senior yearbook quote to be a hit with the crowd, perhaps try comedy.

“I think goofy quotes are the best, because when you look through them, you’ll remember them,” said yearbook editor senior Maya Caminada.

**2.** If getting a laugh isn’t your top priority, then maybe opt for nostalgia.

“I chose mine knowing it would be something to look back on,” said senior Carly Donk.

**3.** Another popular option is to choose something more personal, like a quote from their favorite song, singer, piece of literature, or author.

“I like Mark Twain and his quote just stuck with me,” said senior Sidney Alwen.

**4.** To some, senior quotes represent something more important to them, like religion.

“Well, my faith is super important to me and it describes who I am as a person,” said senior Courtney Dodd.

**5.** Of course, if you can’t find one that suits you--or if you just don’t care--then you needn’t worry about this.

“I don’t think they are that important, but some quotes are too serious, and funny ones are nice to see,” said senior Declan Tumlér.

## What makes a dream college?

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By Kiet Nguyen

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As San Luis Obispo High School seniors finish up their last year of high school, the decision of choosing colleges proves to be a hard task. A dream college consists of many things, from the environment the school conveys to incoming students, to the types of people that attend the school. So, what aspect should one keep in mind when selecting a dream school?

“The financial aspect of the college

definitely is important because you don’t want to have a bunch of debt when you leave college. Also, the learning environment and people who go to the school play a big part when it comes to selecting colleges for me,” said senior Maxim Dahan.

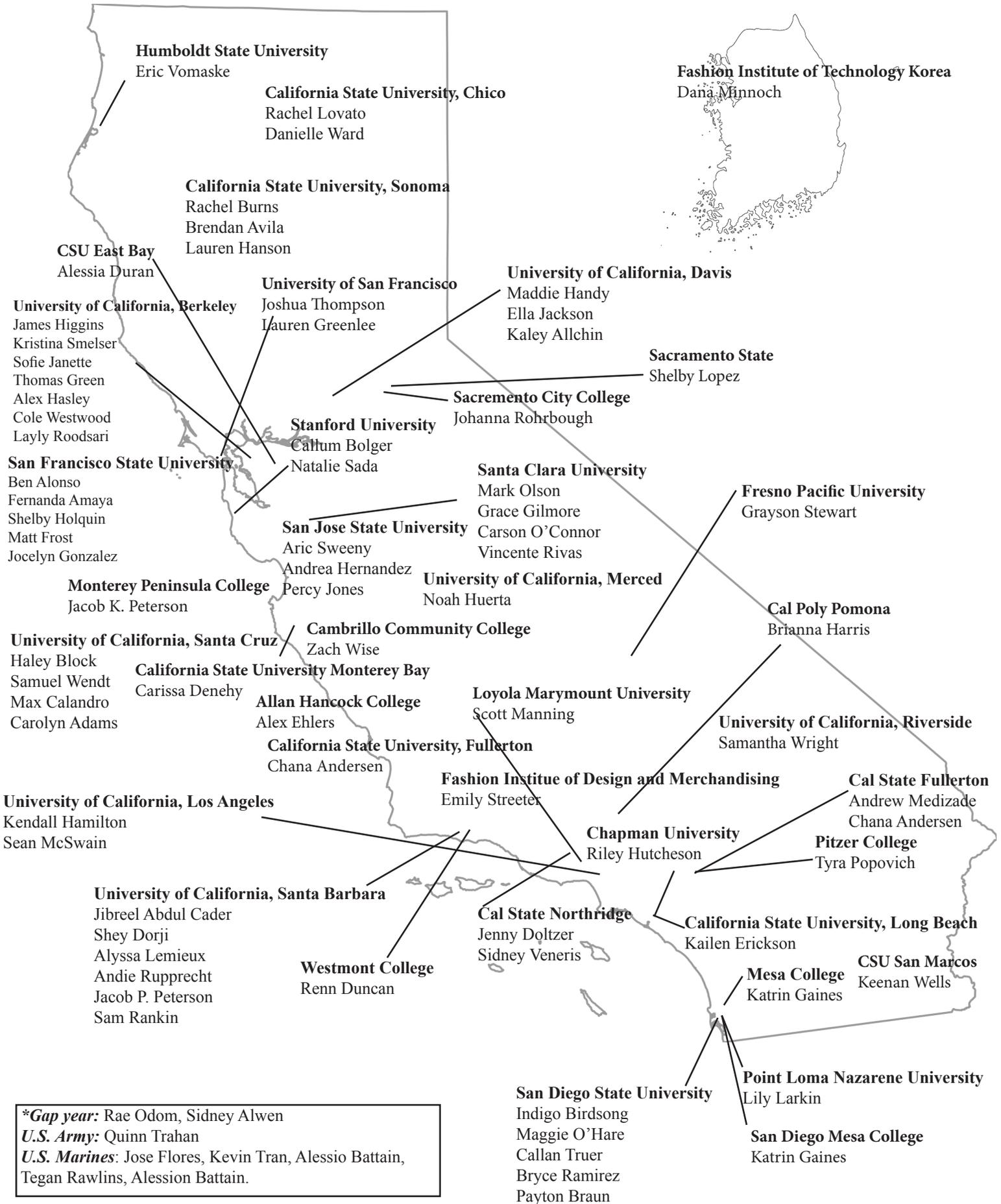
The cost of a four-year college can range from ten thousand to as much as sixty thousand dollars. As people tour colleges and research them, they quickly realize how much it will actually cost. Fortunately, financial aid and scholarships allow more and more students to attend their dream

schools with less trouble.

“The best thing I could recommend is start selecting colleges early. Since I started doing mine in autumn, I had to rush against time, and if I had started in the summer I could have knocked some of the essays out of the way, and it would’ve been way easier,” said senior David Bloom.

So, yes, selecting your dream college is extremely difficult, but with more research and preparation, attending your dream school would not be as impossible as it seems.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO



# THE CLASS OF 2017



## Cuesta College

Pawan Pabla	Autumn Porter	Vincent Tibbles	Elena Cruz Gutierrez	Jonathan Righetti	Aidan Biggs	Skylar Noel
Alyssa Angulo	Mathew Nishi	Jose Tinoco	Oliver Kibbe	James Roeder	Brittany Bossler	Anastasia Panos
Jailene Garcia	Stryker Schwan	Leslie Duran	Garron Knox	Vishal Shukla	Cole Hanvey	Vaugh Pavlovich
Sabrina Johnson	Daniel Snelling	Kaylee Smith	Britania Lee	Ryan Stokes	Omar Del Real	Edwin Ramirez
Cassandra Ketchum	Tahir Blazquez	Erick Ramirez	Niklas Lichti	Jacob Terry	Carissa Denehy	Aaron Reantazo
James Krill	Joseph Perez	Erika Valero	Cooper Lock	Sofia Terry	Jacob Donath	Noll Richardson
Logan McNichols	Jesus Ramirez	Goki Yamada	Karol Martinez	Austine Trigueros	Leslie Duran-Nunez	Lilia Robinson
Sean Kucer	Jamir Pitts	Brayden Perry	Adam Merida-Martinez	Declan Tumler	Brennan Ferdon	Alyssa Rodriguez
Seth Keller	Christopher Niebuhr	Westen Meyer	Aldo Morales	Erika Valero	Kayla Flores	Enrique Saenz
Danielle Jaworski	Cameron Adams	Solomon Atencio	Jesse Morales	Lieve Vandenouden	Aidan Foley	Zaira Salas
Megan Stoudenmire	Allie Arthur	Carson Beckett	Valdovinos	Liam Waller	Miles Fry	Taite Stickler
Kyeran Bishop	Adena Lamar	Matthew Block	Matthew Navarro	Spencer Wong	Kenneth Fulton	Erick Vasquez
Bailey Bethard	Michael Lopez	Ben Braun	Chelsey Perez	Humberto Zamora	Graham Gilmore	Aaron Verlengia
William Pfeil	William Meinhold	Anela Brebes	Thomas Phelan	Viviana Zamora	Thomas Kahn	Eric Vomaske
Audrey Ross	Alicia Mondragon	Kevin Creel	Marissa Piatt	Jacob Agar	Shelby Macedo	Jacob Walker
Jacquelinne Ruiz	Daniel Pooler	Noe Davis	Autumn Porter	Hannah Amador	Marcos Mansilla	
Miah Greenhaw	Delaney Romo	Jason Del Castillo	Isidro Ramirez	Francisco Amaya	Kaia Nash	
Jarrod Hayes	Jacob Scurria	Andrea Garcia		Daria Axelsson	Colin Neely	

## California State Polytechnic University - San Luis Obispo

Maddie Brogno	Javier Guerrero	Noa Tomaszewski	Shannon Donahue	Haley Adler	Juan Rodriguez	Amando Garza
Thomas Bordeaux	Christa Lodato	Jenny Zakaria	Victor Dekhtyar	Victoria Hanson	Noa Tomaszewski	Derek Allis
Cole Coward	Kaitlin Lynch	Natalie Ryan	Jenna Hodgkin	Kate Miller	Jennifer Zakaria	Maxim Dahan
Victor Dekhtyar	Kate Miller	Catherine Price	Lauren Haran	Karly Bonzi	Alison Lucero	Tori Hanson
Chris Diedrich	Weilu Pan	Emma Bourroux	Isaiah Kim	Michelle Kang	Maxim Dahan	Grace Smith
Shannon Donahue	James Raj	Breanna Chambers	Sydney Meertens	Kaitlin Lynch	Spencer Egbert	Joshua Rabbon
Cormac Duffy	Emily Stephens	Cole Coward	Anna Walden	Grace Park	Emily Stephens	

# Track Star Kate Miller Runs the Grand Canyon



By Ellie Janette

“What I love most about running is that it’s just you, just you and the trail. You can go out and challenge yourself to do things you didn’t think you could do before,” said senior cross country and track runner Kate Miller.

Miller has been a devoted runner on the San Luis Obispo High School track and cross country teams since her freshman year, and she is certainly no stranger to pushing past her limits. By staying driven, Miller accomplishes great things some of us wouldn’t even dream possible, like running from rim to rim of the Grand Canyon.

Miller and her family have had an annual hike across the Grand Canyon for the past nine years. The summer before last, she and her father decided to modify the tradition and change the several day hike into a twenty-four mile run. This was a daunting task, as Miller and her father usually average under eleven miles even on their longest training runs, but the duo was up to the challenge.

The journey begins around four in the morning, allowing ample time to run rim to rim before the temperature reaches upwards of one hundred and ten degrees around 11 a.m. They start at the north rim of the canyon and follow the twisting descent of the North Kaibab trail. Around seven miles in, there is a campground al-

lowing the first break of the journey, which Miller said is kept brief to avoid “too much stiffness developing in [their] legs.” The following seven miles are run along the Bright Angel Creek with breathtaking panoramic views and leads to a second campground for another brief break to refuel and prepare for the remainder of the journey.

The next two miles are run along a trail with a steady incline paralleling the Col-



orado River and depositing Miller next to a plateau in the middle of the canyon, the beginning of the final and most harrowing climb of the day. Roughly three miles of steep switchbacks lovingly nicknamed by Miller as “the stairway to hell” leads to the summit of the plateau and obliterates all strength still left in the legs.

Exhausted at this point, Miller and her dad stop briefly in the Indian Gardens to wet the shirts they made to commemorate the event (and their well-known love of five finger shoes) and to cool off before running the incredibly painful four and a half miles still remaining. These final miles consist of short and steep switchbacks, as well as one called “Heartbreak Hill” that is nearly half a mile long, and are littered with a few rest houses and water stations to help keep weary adventurers moving. At this point, Miller is over seven hours into the journey and has pushed her body further than ever before, and one can only imagine the sheer exhaustion she feels.

Likewise, upon concluding the journey and reaching the south rim, one can only imagine the joy and power she feels. 24 miles of running, hours of climbing, and endless serpentine beneath the heat of the blazing sun is not something many people will accomplish in their lifetimes, let alone before they turn eighteen years old.

“I felt like the tin man from ‘The Wizard of Oz,’” said Miller in an attempt to describe how her body felt upon completion. Summertime in the Grand Canyon have been a part of Miller’s life for many years, and though the running of it is a relatively new tradition, it’s one that’s here to stay.



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 coming soon  
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# Senior Athletes Impart Knowledge on Young Tigers

By Nicole Kasper

The school year is coming to an end at San Luis Obispo High School and senior athletes are reminiscing on their four years of balancing school and sports. *Expressions* interviewed three seniors from all three sports seasons to gain further insight about students who participate in sports at SLOHS and advice they have for student athletes.

**Expressions:** What sport do you play?

**Senior Brendan Avila:** Football.

**Senior Megan Stoudenmire:** Basketball.

**Senior Bryce Ramirez:** Baseball.

**Expressions:** What is the most difficult thing about balancing sports and school?

**Avila:** Obtaining a work ethic. You have to give up free time to get all your homework done.

**Stoudenmire:** Getting your homework done because practices run late.

**Ramirez:** I've always played club, so it prepared me for balancing sports and school.

**Expressions:** What has been your favorite sports memory at SLOHS?

**Avila:** Getting two wins back to back as

a junior.

**Stoudenmire:** A tournament in Chino Hills, we won in a triple overtime game.

**Ramirez:** First round at CIF last year when we had a walk off win.

**Expressions:** What advice would you give to other student athletes?

**Avila:** Soak up every single day.

**Stoudenmire:** Always find time to study, always ask teachers for help, and participate in your classes.

**Ramirez:** Don't take it too seriously. Have fun, it ends quicker than you think.



## TIGER SPORTS RANKINGS



1.	<b>Girls Soccer</b>	13-1-0 (1st / 8 teams)
2.	<b>Boys Soccer</b>	12-1-1 (1st / 8 teams)
3.	<b>Softball</b>	10-2 (1st / 8 teams)
4.	<b>Girls Golf</b>	2-0 (1st / 8 teams)
5.	<b>Girls Swim and Dive</b>	7-1 (1st / 8 teams)
6.	<b>Boys Track and Field</b>	2nd in League
7.	<b>Girls Track and Field</b>	2nd in League
8.	<b>Girls Cross Country</b>	2nd in League
9.	<b>Boys Volleyball</b>	10-2 (2nd / 7 teams)
10.	<b>Boys Tennis</b>	12-2 (2nd / 8 teams)
11.	<b>Girls Tennis</b>	12-2 (2nd / 8 teams)
12.	<b>Boys Cross Country</b>	3rd in League
13.	<b>Boys Swim and Dive</b>	5-3 (3rd / 7 teams)
14.	<b>Boys Golf</b>	1-1 (3rd / 8 teams)
15.	<b>Boys Water Polo</b>	4-5 (4th / 7 teams)
16.	<b>Baseball</b>	9-9 (5th / 8 teams)
17.	<b>Girls Basketball</b>	6-8 (5th / 8 teams)
18.	<b>Girls Water Polo</b>	2-6 (5th / 6 teams)
19.	<b>Boys Basketball</b>	4-10 (6th / 8 teams)
20.	<b>Girls Volleyball</b>	2-6 (5th / 6 teams)
21.	<b>Wrestling</b>	0-4 (5th / 5 teams)
22.	<b>Football</b>	0-4 (5th / 5 teams)

# Senior Style Evolution

By Sarah Ardantz



Style evolution is always a big part of growing up. *Expressions* interviewed San Luis Obispo High School seniors Samantha Wright, Mark Olson, and Rachel Burns to see how their style has evolved throughout their years at SLOHS.

**Expressions:** What styles were worn by students your freshman year?

**Senior Rachel Burns:** Lululemon became pretty popular, and Brandy Melville.

**Senior Samantha Wright:** I definitely remember the “bohemian” style being in at the time, coachella-esque flower crowns and maxi skirts were all the rage.

**Senior Mark Olson:** Five Panel hats, Patagonia, Stance socks, and floral button downs.

**Expressions:** What did you usually wear freshman year?

**Burns:** I wore a lot of Abercrombie, Brandy Melville,

Urban Outfitters, and the teen section of Nordstrom.

**Wright:** I mostly wore fad basics like Abercrombie jeans, Brandy Melville t-shirts

that barely fit, and high waisted shorts. I had a few Free People pieces from the Ambiance sale section so I had a little edge.

**Olson:** Pants and floral

button downs.

**Expressions:** Do you regret your freshman style?

**Burns:** I don't necessarily regret what I wore, I think some of it was okay, but I can definitely see a change in my style; my style has matured.

**Wright:** I ultimately don't regret anything, it's just a bit disappointing that I felt like I had to dress for other people. Fashion is very reflective of one's personality and to dress simply according to what's “in” is pretty ridiculous. Fashion fads change pretty rapidly as well, so dressing for you saves money.

**Olson:** Yes, pants are the worst.

**Expressions:** What do you wear now?

**Burns:** Now I wear a lot of Savvy, Urban Outfitters, Free People and TBD sections of Nordstrom, Avanti from downtown, and whatever else I find that I like.

**Wright:** Oh boy, my fashion now is pretty strange. I like wearing things that make people confused, and the more colorful the item the better.

If I were to sum it up with a title, it would be kindergarten chic.

**Olson:** Shorts and flip flops.



# Change in the English Department at SLOHS Next Year

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By Matteo Ferranti

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Next year at San Luis Obispo High School there are going to be many changes in the English department.

The first big news about next year is that Ivan Simon will teach US History classes, to make up for the gap created by retiring teacher John Franklin.

Simon will still be teaching English other than History, though.

Another important element being introduced is the AP English class change for juniors and seniors. In fact, English teachers Simon, Jane Hawley, and Scott Nairne met

with the principal Leslie O'Connor and agreed to change the English Literature from 12th grade to 11th grade. So, 11th grade students will take American Literature, College Prep, or English Literature AP. In 12th grade it will be Language and Composition or Expository Reading and Writing.

“One of the reasons we changed it is because right now, 12th grade is Literature, and that’s what students do in 9th and 10th grade and so it will be 9th, 10th and 11th in the new way, and then 12th grade will do non-fiction. We thought kids will be more used to that kind of writing and reading. Also, Nairne teaches Expository Writing in

12th grade and that will match up with the 12th grade AP,” said Hawley, who will teach Literature next year.

The last innovation to the English department is that Sandra Del Martini is going to teach English in our school next year. She used to be the English teacher at Laguna Middle School, giving her experience in our education system; She was the teacher of special assignment (TOSA) of the district.

The district is getting rid of the TOSA position, so she’s allowed a job act within the district and landed here at SLOHS.

# The Reality of Student Loans

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By Abigail Dorman

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It is common knowledge that a college education is extremely expensive. According to US News, over the past two decades, out of state tuition at public universities has increased 226 percent and in-state tuition at public national universities has increased 296 percent. Nowadays, with the cost of a four-year public university education ranging between 9,650 dollars for in-state tuition and 24,930 dollars for out-of-state tuition, loans have become a viable option for many students to pay for the cost of a college education.

“I am taking out student loans because I am going to college out of state and my family and I cannot afford to pay the tuition in full for the next four years, but receiving an education is extremely important to me,” said senior Cami Love.

Taking out students loans leads to an accumulation of debt. According to Forbes, the average student loan debt for the class

of 2016 is 37,172 dollars and the total student loan debt on a global scale is 1.31 trillion dollars. In order to avoid paying for the cost of a collegiate education themselves, many students work to come to an agreement with their parents. Regardless of whether students solely have to take out student loans to pay for room and board or their entire education, loans have a major impact on a person’s ability to immerse themselves in their college environment.

“I’m trying to graduate college in three and a half years so I will be taking classes during the summer quarter. I am trying to graduate as quickly as I can so that I can get a job to start paying back my loans. I cannot go to grad school right after I receive my undergrad because then I would just be in even more debt. I will need to have a job through college as well,” said Love.

Student loans are not a favorable option for many young adults. With the potential

for an accumulation of a huge amount of debt from loans, many students prefer to rely on scholarships in order to pay for college.

“My parents are really against student loans, it’s our last resource because we don’t like the amount of pressure of paying the loans on time. We are also trying to avoid the interest rates on the loans,” said senior Andrea Hernandez.

If you are considering going to a university, be sure to keep in mind the increasing cost of tuition and the impact student loans can have on your future.

Sources:

<https://www.forbes.com>

<http://www.collegedata.com>

<https://www.usnews.com>

# Glo-Ups

Freshman to Senior Year

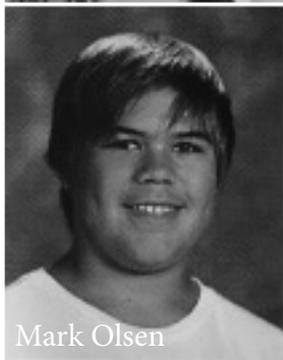
By Joanna Padron



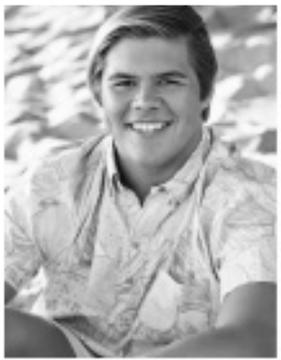
Haley Block



Maggie O'Hare



Mark Olsen



Max Calandro



# Seniors Reminisce About Their SLOHS Memories

By Jenny Zakaria

Many graduating seniors can look back on the past four years and recount joyful memories. For some, they came from participation in school sports teams and for others it was the wonderful friendships made. Regardless, *Expressions* asked SLOHS seniors what their favorite memories were.

**Expressions:** What was your favorite memory from SLOHS?

**Senior David Bloom:** It was the night before a [cross country] state meet and we were all a bit nervous because it's the biggest race of the year. We decided to have some fun that night and glow stucked the entire hotel room. It smelled really bad in there and I was a little scared for my eyes for a while. Also, the seniors who had to sleep in there were all glowing in the morning.

**Senior Emily Stephens:** Shannon and Sheri Donahue, Grace Price, Brittney Steinbroner, and we were going to get dinner before Prom and we had a ton of time left over and we didn't want to be early, so we went to Home Depot in our prom dresses and just walked around and took pictures. Grace went in a trash can and we all got paint sample

cards that were the colors of our dresses. And we were still early to prom and it kinda sucked.

**Senior Chana Andersen:** Probably the stats competition that I went to last year. Eight of us from our statistics class went to the state competition and we competed against a bunch of other schools and our team of four got second place. That was really cool!

**Senior Callum Bolger:** We set up an ambush for the girls cross country team at Cuesta Park. We invited them to play ultimate frisbee and there is a tunnel leading into the side of the park and we led them through there. We let all of the girls go through first and had people on the other side of the tunnel posted on the top of it with Sprite and Fanta bottles. Once they all got in the tunnel, we went in the bushes and got a bunch of squirt guns filled with soda. We had a guy sound an alarm, which was just a blow horn, and everybody just started screaming and attacking them with the squirt bottles and Noah Huerta, such a nice little freshman kid, was on the top of the tunnel, just pouring soda on people and dropped a full two liter bottle on somebody's head. We got a bunch of flour and threw it all over them. It was really funny!

## Saying Goodbye to our SLOHS Retirees

By Roy Ihatsu

As the school year ends, some of our San Luis Obispo High School teachers say goodbye to their careers as educators. Many of them are off to start a completely new life. Before they leave our school forever, *Expressions* set out to interview three of our retiring teachers.

**Expressions:** What does it feel like leaving SLOHS?

**History teacher John Franklin:** It's a mixture of emotions. A bit of sadness, but a lot of excitement, like a kid before Christmas. I'm really excited about a new life.

**Child Development teacher Lisa Burson:** I find myself feeling sad when I cover a topic for the last time. I think "Oh, this is the last time I will teach this lesson." Especially lessons that I really like. After teaching at SLOHS for 16 years, it is hard to imagine not being here. I have so many friends and it is a really interesting and vital place.

**Math teacher Steve Boaz:** Leaving SLOHS will be difficult because I enjoy helping students learn mathematics, but it is also exciting because I will get to spend more time with my own kids.

**Expressions:** What will you miss most?

**Franklin:** Students and interactions with them.

**Burson:** I will miss those times when students have an "aha moment" or have success and are excited about what they have made. Sometimes I teach a lesson and the students are really engaged and they share with me and teach me and tell me about things I don't know. It just feels joyful.

**Boaz:** I will miss the daily interactions with students and my colleagues but I'll try to think of you as I spend time hiking and biking, while everyone here is testing and grading.

**Expressions:** What does the future hold for you?

**Franklin:** I'd like to have a new career in the tourism industry, maybe as guide of some kind. Temporarily, I want to work

part-time at Trader Joe's.

**Burson:** My future is in flux. I want to find something to do that will make the world a better place and give me a feeling of fulfillment.

**Boaz:** After thirty years at SLOHS and 33 years total of teaching, I'm ready for a change. I plan on spending more time with my boys (Hayden and Hudson) and my wife (Jill). I will also be spending more time running and cycling on the trails of San Luis Obispo.

**Expressions:** Any last comment or advice?

**Franklin:** Be patient as a lot of changes will be happening on campus. Hang in there. Love and help each other. Work hard and have a good life.

**Burson:** I would like everyone to be kind to themselves and others. Life can be difficult. Know that difficult times don't last and seek or create joy every day.

**Boaz:** SLOHS is a great place to be a teacher because of the students. Thanks to all of you who worked hard in my classes and out on the track for the last thirty years!

## What Seniors Are Leaving Behind

By Kate Lafaille

Whether they are going to a community college, four year university, or taking a gap year, all of the seniors at San Luis Obispo High School are moving on to the next chapter of their lives. Each senior has

something that they will be leaving behind as they continue on past graduation. *Expressions* asked SLOHS seniors what they will be leaving behind after graduation.

**Senior Samantha Wright:** I am leaving behind some of the clothes that I have bought thrift shopping to my younger sister (junior) Brooke Wright.

**Senior Sheri Donahue:** I am leaving be-

hind the city of San Luis Obispo. I am going to miss all the beaches, mountains, downtown, and the community.

**Senior Ben Lemiere:** I am leaving behind my parking spot.

**Senior Caroline Petithomme:** I am leaving behind my beloved Jeep, a lot of my spirit-wear, and memories I want to forget.



